WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A method for presenting distributable computer readable media to a user in response to a user request, said method comprising the steps of:

5   identifying a definition of a Networked Information Monitor (NIM);

              defining a NIM frame for said NIM using said definition;

              retrieving content for said NIM; and

              placing said content in a NIM viewer defined by said frame.

10   2.   The method of claim 1 wherein the identifying step includes the steps of:

              obtaining an identification for a definition of said NIM; and

              retrieving said definition of said NIM using said identification.

3.   The method of claim 1 wherein the identifying step includes the step of
15   retrieving said definition of said NIM from a user profile resident on a server computer.

4.   The method of claim 1 wherein said identifying step includes the step of identifying a definition in XML format.

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5.   The method of claim 1 wherein said identifying step includes the step of identifying a definition including a frame specification.

6.   The method of claim 5 wherein said identifying step includes the step of
25   identifying a definition including a frame specification with a NIM size.

7.   The method of claim 5 wherein said identifying step includes the step of identifying a definition including a frame specification with a menu definition.

30   8.   The method of claim 5 wherein said identifying step includes the step of identifying a definition including a frame specification with a titlebar definition.

9.   The me⬤ of claim 5 wherein said identifying st⬤ludes the step of identifying a definition including a control field.

10.   The method of claim 9 wherein said identifying step includes the step of

5   identifying a definition including an address for said distributable computer readable media to be renedered using said control field.

11.   The method of claim 1 wherein said identifying step includes the step of identifying a definition including a NIM identification.

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12.   The method of claim 11 wherein said identifying step includes the step of identifying a definition including a unique NIM identification.

13.   The method of claim 1 wherein said identifying step includes the step of

15   identifying a definition including a NIM category assigned by said user.

14.   The method of claim 1 wherein said identifying step includes the step of identifying a definition including an action field for a user-specified event condition.

20   15.   The method of claim 14 further comprising the step of sending a message when said user-specified event condition is satisfied.

16.   A method of altering a Networked Information Monitor (NIM), said method comprising the steps of:

25   receiving a message at a NIM, said message specifying a configurable feature of said NIM; and

        altering said NIM in accordance with said configurable feature of said message.

30   17.   The method of claim 16 wherein said altering step includes the step of altering the content within a viewer of said NIM.

18.   The me⬛ of claim 16 wherein said altering step ⬛des the step of altering the characteristics of a frame associated with said NIM.

19.   The method of claim 16 further comprising the step of sending said message from a generating NIM.

20.   The method of claim 16 further comprising the step of sending said message in response to a predetermined event.

21.   A computer readable memory to direct a computer to function in a specified manner, comprising:

        a first executable module to identify a definition of a Networked Information Monitor (NIM);

        a second executable module to define a NIM frame for said NIM using said definition;

        a third executable module to retrieve content for said NIM; and

        a fourth executable module to place said content in a NIM viewer defined by said frame.

22.   The computer readable memory of claim 21 wherein said first executable module identifies a definition of a NIM in XML format.

23.   The computer readable memory of claim 21 wherein said first executable module identifies a definition specifying a fully configurable NIM frame.

24.   The computer readable memory of claim 23 wherein said first executable module identifies a definition specifying a fully configurable NIM frame with specified user controls.

25.   A computer readable memory to direct a computer to function in a specified manner, comprising:

a first executable module to receive a Networked Information Monitor (NIM) message, said NIM message specifying a configurable feature of a NIM; and

a second executable module to alter said NIM in accordance with said configurable feature of said NIM message.

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26.   The computer readable memory of claim 25 wherein said second executable module alters the content within a viewer of said NIM.

27.   The computer readable memory of claim 25 wherein said second executable

10   module alters a frame associated with said NIM.

28.   A computer readable memory to direct a computer to function in a specified manner, comprising:

a first executable module to facilitate the activation of a set of Networked

15   Information Monitors (NIMs) on a client device controlled by a user, each NIM of said set of NIMs including a configurable NIM frame surrounding a NIM viewer;

a second executable module to retrieve a set of addressed Internet content for said set of NIMs, said set of addressed Internet content including individually packaged content for each NIM viewer associated with said set of NIMs, said

20   individually packaged content residing at a predetermined address; and

a third executable module to load said addressed Internet content into each NIM of said set of NIMs.

29.   The computer readable memory of claim 28 wherein said third executable

25   module includes executable instructions to draw said NIM frame in a configuration specified by an entity that provides individually packaged content for said NIM frame.

30.   The computer readable memory of claim 28 further comprising a fourth executable module to facilitate the reconfiguration of a first NIM in response to a

30   message from a second NIM.